

# INFANT DEATH RATE

## Objective

By 1990, the national infant mortality rate should be reduced to no more than nine deaths per 1,000 live births.

## Explanatory Notes

Infant deaths are deaths of residents under one year of age.

## Findings

Since 1970, both the state and national infant mortality rates have decreased slightly more than 55 percent. Despite the steady reduction, North Carolina remains among the states with the highest infant mortality rates. The nation missed achieving the goal by a slim margin with a provisional rate of 9.1.

## Related National Objectives for the Year 2000

- o Reduce the infant mortality rate to no more than seven per 1,000 live births.
- o Reduce the infant mortality rate among blacks to no more than 11 per 1,000 live births.
- o Reduce the infant mortality rate among American Indian/Alaska Natives to no more than 8.5 per 1,000 live births.
- o Reduce the infant mortality rate among Puerto Ricans to no more than eight per 1,000 live births.
- o Reduce the postneonatal mortality rate to no more than 2.5 per 1,000 live births.
- o Reduce the postneonatal mortality rate among blacks to no more than four per 1,000 live births.
- o Reduce the postneonatal mortality rate among American Indian/Alaska Natives to no more than four per 1,000 live births.
- o Reduce the postneonatal mortality rate among Puerto Ricans to no more than 2.8 per 1,000 live births.

## Data Sources

North Carolina: State Center for Health and Environmental Statistics  
United States: National Center for Health Statistics